

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for processing business metrics information in a system including a server, and at least one user device and a database communicatively coupled to the server, said method comprising:

storing pre-defined users based on a business metric at the database;

receiving operating and financial data for a business;

processing the data to generate business metrics;

comparing the business metrics to pre-defined parameters;

notifying the pre-defined users when a pre-determined threshold regarding a respective business metric is satisfied; and

displaying a status of the business metrics using a plurality of gauges for visually indicating a status of a respective business metric.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein displaying the business metrics further comprises displaying at least one gauge which visually indicates the position of a switch between an "ON" position and an "OFF" position.

4. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising displaying business data associated with each business metric.

5. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 4 wherein displaying business data associated with each business metric further comprises linking business data used in determining a status of each respective metric to each business metric.

6. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 4 wherein displaying business data associated with each business metric further comprises linking business data to each respective visual display.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A method in accordance with Claim 7 1 wherein notifying users further comprises defining the pre-determined thresholds that trigger the notifications.

9. (currently amended) A method in accordance with Claim 7 1 wherein notifying users further comprises defining which users receive the notifications when a predetermined threshold is satisfied.

10. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising coupling a message center to the server.

11. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 10 wherein coupling a message center further comprises receiving user inquiries regarding the business metric associated with the message center.

12. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 10 wherein coupling a message center further comprises receiving user input regarding the business metric associated with the message center.

13. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising restricting access to the server system.

14-38. (canceled)

39-46. (withdrawn)